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Thursday, December 7, 1911.

Another "scientist" says that he is able to transform the baser metals into gold. In the same old way, probably.

The Western Governors are having a good time in the East, as is their due. They are on an educational trip, and are not above taking some of it themselves.

Fire Chief Gloré does well to invite attention to the danger of Christmas fires, and point out how to prevent them. It is good advice, that should be faithfully followed.

Persia is spinning up and has sent an ultimatum to Russia. But unless a miracle intervenes, Persia is doomed, for she can no more fight Russia than a jackrabbit could fight a coyote.

It is excellent news that the work on the extension of the Utah Hotel company is to begin at once and be pushed to completion without delay. That is the way to make things move.

The "spats" back and forth between Germany and British foreign ministers in regard to the war crisis over Morocco last summer are important only as showing that the real danger of war is over.

Prince Chun, father of the Chinese emperor and regent of the empire, has resigned. This will help, for Chun has been the most persistent and shameless grafter of an officialdom given over to graft.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican: "In hearing the insurgents for preventing results in Congress the coming session, Senator Smoot takes time by the forelock and Senator La Follette by the pompadour. The Utah statesman has the wisdom of one of his sugar beets."

And now the Chicago packers' trial is comfortably on in the Federal courts, the charge being violation of the criminal provisions of the anti-trust law. The civil provisions are getting on fairly well, and now we shall know what the criminal provisions mean. It's a good thing to know "where we are at" on both counts.

The Persia society in England may make the British ministry mightily ashamed of its aid to Russia in the occupation of Persia, but the aid is pledged, and Russia is ruthless, not amenable to the civilized Christian sentiment of the world. The only thing that would be likely to compel Russia to pause would be a warning note from Japan.

The idea of asking the Federal Government to take charge of the reclamation of swamps by draining them reaches the climax of the absurdity when applied to States where the Nation has no ownership in the public domain. In States where the Government owns the land and could get back the money spent for drainage, the scheme might be defensible.

The Smoot organ here is best as a "jokist" when it is in the most deadly earnest. Yesterday morning for instance, it said: "The differences in opinion that have created division in the Republican ranks are in no degree as marked as those which have split the Democracy into half a dozen factions." And this in direct view of the big La Follette schism, the like of which can in no way be found in the Democratic party.

The wild recklessness of Americans in money matters as well as in rail-roading, is often the theme of our censorious British cousins. Yet the biggest bank failure of the year is that of a British bank in Egypt, with liabilities of over \$1,000,000 Egyptian, the Egyptian pound being rated at \$1.943, or, in round numbers, the failure is for \$20,000,000. That is surely going some for a cautious, conservative people that view American recklessness with such horror.

Before the recent election in Canada, Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced that if he was beaten he would retire from public life; he was too old to lead an opposition. After election he said he would wait awhile before retiring. Now he is busy on a plan to force another general election on the reciprocity issue after the reapportionment for the Dominion parliament is made, which the new census requires and which will materially increase the representation

of the northwest provinces. All of which proves that Sir Wilfrid lacks nothing of the characteristics of the true and wily politician.

## THE LOS ANGELES ELECTION.

The Los Angeles election went with a sweep against the Socialists. It had been supposed that the Socialist candidate for mayor would be elected, since he was decidedly ahead of any other candidate at the primaries; but, at the election he was snowed under by a tremendous adverse vote. Undoubtedly the confessions of the McNamara had a good deal to do with this; but we should think it very unlikely that it would have such a tremendous influence as to change so radically the huge vote that was cast. And this vote is, in itself, a wonder. What sort of a population do they have at Los Angeles, anyway, that will give a registered vote of a good deal more than half of the total population? In Salt Lake City we have women suffrage, and have had it right along for fifteen years, but our vote shows no such percentage of the total population. The vote cast here at the election last month aggregated 25,975, with a population according to last year's Federal census of 92,777. But, Los Angeles, with a population of 319,198, had close upon 200,000 registered voters, and cast a vote which approximates 50 per cent of the total population, though, as we are assured, the poor didn't vote; if they had, the vote must have reached about half of the total population. It would appear from these figures that the population of Los Angeles is much more than usual in any other city, made up of adults. It is a case where our most illustrious private citizen would justly be exasperated and enraged at the plain evidences which the registration and the ballots afford, of the most scandalous form of "race suicide."

It appears that the people of Los Angeles were not anxious for a change of administration. They have a good mayor, and they have a satisfactory liquor law, since, as we judge, the election must have been influenced largely by the prohibition ordinance submitted, which, as described, is the most drastic proposition that any city has yet faced. But Los Angeles would have none of it, and is content to let well enough alone. It is a city growing more rapidly than almost any other in the world, and is quite willing to keep right on in the same course. It does not think that it is a good thing to call a halt on prosperity and growth, but wants to keep right on growing; and in this, undoubtedly, the people of Los Angeles are wiser than the people of some other cities that might be named.

## CONSERVATIONISTS' SNEAK.

It will be remembered that when President Taft withdrew certain forest areas on Controller Bay, a terrific outcry was raised by Pinchot and other conservationists, that their cause was being betrayed, that the President had gone over to the Ballinger idea, and that the people of the United States at large were going to be deprived of their unalienable right to cut their kindling wood on the forest areas of the Chugach reserve. The President, however, stood firm, and made such a complete explanation to the people of the United States, that no doubt was left in the public mind as to the propriety and rightfulness of his course. Still, the conservationists would not be content; they employed Mr. Brandeis to investigate, and he, as special counsel for the Graham Committee, has gone over the whole case.

In the meantime, however, it was found that Secretary Fisher was going to Alaska to look into the Controller Bay question and other matters there for himself. The conservationists feared that he might take the wind out of their sails completely by making a report in favor of President Taft, and so Pinchot also went to Alaska to look into matters there, and offset Fisher's report if possible. But it was not possible. Secretary Fisher made a report completely supporting President Taft, and Pinchot did not have the temerity to oppose Mr. Fisher's report in this matter, for Pinchot found that he had been talking foolishly, and without knowledge of the true situation. He had never been in Alaska before, although he had made tremendous assumptions of what ought to be done and what ought not to be done in that region.

And so the case against President Taft by the faddist conservationist broke completely down.

But, do they confess that their case broke down? Do they admit that President Taft was right and that they were wrong? Not for a moment. They undertake to sneak out of the matter by claiming that the Government has "changed its policy." But, as the whole case was centered upon what had already been done, no plea of change of policy can possibly come in, for any change of policy must relate to matter that came after, and not what had already been done. And so the report of Mr. Brandeis to Chairman Graham of the conservation fad is utterly disingenuous, if not dishonest, in stating that Secretary Fisher's recommendations "mark a reversal of the policy of the administration in dealing with the Alaskan problem." As a matter of fact, Secretary Fisher's recommendations do nothing of the kind. They fully support President Taft's act on the Controller Bay question, and while the Secretary's recommendations as to leasing the coal mines are, we believe, impracticable, they certainly do not indicate any change of policy on behalf of the Government, especially as to matters upon which the Graham Committee was investigating in behalf of the faddists and against the procedure of President Taft. The Fisher recommendations completely sustain President Taft, and his policy with regard

to Alaska under the laws as they exist. President Taft, however, is firm in his opinion that the law should be changed, and we presume there can be no difference of opinion among reasonable men on that point. The law ought to be changed, and the sooner it is changed the better.

But, what a piece of contemptible sneakery it is for the conservationists to try to "save their face" by claiming that they had been right all the time, and that it was only a change of policy on the part of the Government which reconciles them as to President Taft's action! Since there has been no change of policy, and since the only suggestion of a change is in President Taft's recommendation for legislation that in the future will relieve Alaska from the paralysis which the conservation people have put upon it, the spectacle which the conservation people have made of themselves before the country is pitiable indeed.

## WEIGHT SHORTAGE ON BUTTER.

The question of shortage in weights, especially in the matter of butter, is one that would appear to be insignificant as applied to any one purchase of (say) what is assumed to be a pound of butter, the package containing this assumed pound being of but fifteen-ounce weight. And yet, when one considers that families of any size have a good many pounds of butter to buy in the course of the year, the importance of that missing ounce becomes evident. And when, further, the reckoning of this ounce shortage is made in favor of the dealer to (let us say) a thousand families, the importance of that ounce becomes at once strongly in evidence.

In line with this thought we are glad to print and commend the following address to the public from the Social Service Commission of the Episcopal Church for the District of Utah:

There shall have a perfect and just weight—no such thing as an abomination that do unjustly, are an abomination to the Lord thy God.—Deuteronomy 25:16-18.

Utah has no law requiring butter to be sold in a pound of 16 ounces. It simply holds the dealer to the requirement that the weight shown on the wrapper, on the cover of the package. So at present packages of butter are marked as containing 16 ounces. This circumstance offers an illustration of how the law can be used to help the industry in enhancing its profits and leave the people unprotected and prey to the mercy of an unjust business.

The wholesale price of butter is not set by the Government, but by the quotations in the large producing centers, particularly at Elgin. The price at Elgin has at no time during the year been above 22 cents per pound of 16 ounces. New York and eastern markets are at the Elgin quotations plus the express rate. In the summer the price is fixed here, but with this difference that it is set on 15 ounces only. The creamery buys the butter in a pound of 16 ounces and sells it as butter in supposed pounds of 15 ounces. Thus on every pound the sellers gain the illegitimate surplus of an ounce through buying by the normal standard and selling by another. Aside from that gain, they obtain the legitimate surplus through the increase of every 16 ounces of butter fat into 15 ounces of butter due to the addition of salt and moisture.

The loss of one ounce per pound means to the family of five that uses only a pound per week, about two and a half cents or \$1.25 per year. But it amounts to much for the creamery man. It means to him an unearned profit of \$5,000 on the 20,000 families in the city. Moreover, there is nothing to prevent him from dropping the net contents to 14 ounces and still selling it as a pound of 16 ounces. The present law gives him that privilege if he can still fool the people into thinking they get a full pound, as he does now.

The value of this warning to you, if you have a family, is that you can, if you wish, reduce the cost of your living at least one dollar and a quarter per year. Moreover you can help to bring greater honesty in business. Finally you can help to form sentiment against this insidious and cumulatively important method of robbing the public so that at the next session of the legislature the law may be changed. Utah in this respect will then be on the same moral level as the other States.

## WE ASK YOU THEREFORE TO DEPEND IN EACH PACKAGE OF BUTTER THE FULL WEIGHT OF SEVENTEEN OUNCES. INSIST IF YOU MUST UPON YOUR DEALER GIVING YOU THE FULL WEIGHT OF SEVENTEEN OUNCES. MAKE UP THE FULL WEIGHT FOR PAID FOR IT AND WHY NOT HAVE SOCIAL SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH.

## PARCELS POST NEGOTIATIONS.

Recent negotiations between the postal authorities of the United States and those of Great Britain confirm the previous arrangements whereby parcels may be sent by mail from this country to Great Britain, and likewise through the mails from any portion of Great Britain to any portion of the United States. This gives British subjects a standing in our postal carrying system which citizens of the United States do not have in their own country. Reciprocally, it gives inhabitants in the United States an access to British mail privileges which they do not have in the United States mails.

The new negotiations concluded, provide that after December 1st, the present year, the rates of charge for the delivery of parcels will be reduced as follows: "Up to three pounds, from 36 to 30 cents; up to seven pounds, from 60 to 54 cents; up to nine pounds, from 84 to 78 cents; up to eleven pounds, from 108 to 102."

The parcels post is a well established institution in Great Britain. There is no idea there that there is anything wrong about it, or that it hurts anybody, while it benefits the people immensely throughout the United Kingdom. But in the United States there seems to be a great reluctance to adopt this addition to our postal system, that has heretofore prevented the adoption of the parcels post among ourselves, although we grant it freely to the inhabitants of Great Britain and bargain for it for ourselves in the British mails. Why not have it for ourselves in our own country, as well as to allow Britons to have it in our mails?

The question is one of the most puzzling ones now before the public. There seems to be a concession on the part of our National authorities that the parcels post is a good thing, and we negotiate for it with foreign countries, but we refuse to accept it for ourselves.

One statement is, that we ought to have a one-cent letter postage first, and allow the parcels post to come afterward. But that is the trouble; there

is always something proposed to come ahead of the parcels post. We do not believe that, at this time, the people of the United States would prefer one-cent letter postage to having the parcels post, and if Congress would proceed on this basis, putting the parcels post service in our mails, it would be of far greater benefit to the people than any other postal measure now proposed.

## TIME FOR RIGOROUS ACTION.

We are glad of the receipt of the following note from Dr. Ewing of this city:

Salt Lake, Dec. 5, 1911.  
Editor, Tribune.—Two suicides within two weeks! And both from carbonic acid! What a shame to have on our statute books a law where all a contemplated suicide has to do is to simply sign his or her name to a certain "form," when the deadly poison is handed out to them! Is it not true that the law relating to the selling or procuring of poisons be made more stringent?

A. C. EWING.  
This remedy is timely, and everybody should join in seconding the motion made by Dr. Ewing. Surely it is time that the law were strengthened, and that rigor should take the place of the laxity which has hitherto prevailed in this respect. The persons who sell these deadly poisons ought to be sure to use all possible precautions, and doubtless they are doing what is legal in this regard; but it is evident that something unusual is required in order to stop this mania for suicides, and to make it more difficult for desperate persons to obtain the wherewithal to end their lives.

Dr. Ewing's note of warning is both timely and significant. Attention should be paid to it by the legislature at its next session.

## MISSOURI'S TRUST DECISION.

The dispatches have told us how the Supreme Court of the State of Missouri ousted from all dealings in that State the Harvester Trust; but the dispatches did not tell us the spirit in which the court entered that decree. The language of the court was, in effect, a complete triumph for the trust, and the Harvester Company was banished from the State merely because the statute peremptorily required it, and not because there was any just reason for that banishment.

The court, in obedience to the statute, found the defendant guilty, and required it to pay a fine of \$50,000, and to keep out of Missouri in its business. At the same time the Chief Justice stated that the Harvester Trust had not in any way oppressed the people, that the increase in the price of the Trust company's products is less than the increase in the price of material and labor used in their construction. The harvesting company also had extended its business into the production and sale of many other farm implements, and thus put itself in competition with the many concerns that had been engaged in manufacturing the same, and the farmers generally have profited by this competition. The evidence showed also that the machines manufactured by the International Company have been greatly improved in quality, and that the item of repair material has been reduced in price and placed within easier reach of the farmers. On the whole, the Chief Justice concludes: "The evidence shows that the International Harvester Company has not used its power to oppress or injure the farmers who are its customers."

One of the concurring justices explained clearly that the court was "required by the statute" to condemn a company "which has proved by the facts to have been so far beneficial to the community," and added that "independent manufacturers have not suffered by reason of the combination." Scores of retail dealers had testified to the fact that the company had used no unfair methods in its transactions with them, or in its treatment of competitors.

Still, the court entered the decree of expulsion and fine; this in obedience to the statute which plainly required such decree "without regard to the question whether the consumer would be injuriously affected." And the Chief Justice explains that, although the Harvester Trust had not oppressed anybody in Missouri, it must get out of the State; and with some degree of sarcasm the Chief Justice proceeded: "When men deliberately and intelligently go to work and acquire power that will enable them to control the market if they choose to exercise it, there is no use for them to say that they did not intend to control the trade or limit competition, nor when the legality of their act and acquisition is in question is it any use for them to say, 'We have not used the power to oppress anyone.' That is, the statute requires the ouster of any company which the court finds to be in a position to oppress the people, whether, in fact, that concern has oppressed the people or not. The evidence was abundant in this case that the Harvester Trust had not oppressed the people, and the court so found; and yet, in obedience to the drastic statute, the decree of ouster was entered."

It is one of the most extraordinary results of anti-trust legislation that has yet been developed in this country. On the showing made, the Harvester Trust is entitled to the confidence and support of the people of Missouri, and probably has it; yet, by reason of an ironclad statute, not susceptible of being construed under "the rule of reason," the court was obliged to drive out from the State a concern which it found in every way beneficial to the people therein. Surely anti-trust legislation falls considerably further short.

Dr. Wiley, pure food expert, declares that "fewer pianos and more cook stoves are what we want in this country." Yes, with plenty of husky women cooks.

## Keith-O'Brien Company

Our assortments of Christmas goods are at their best and the less busy hours of the day afford greater comfort and more time for leisurely selection

On the floor below is to be found the largest toy department in the city. From simplest Doll or Toy to Mechanical Toys of greatest complexity. Exhibit is unique for its wonderful comprehensiveness

## Express and Mail

For the convenience of our patrons we have established an Express Office on our west balcony, where express shipments will be accepted, packed, carefully wrapped and addressed and forwarded to any part of the world. Also a mailing division, which saves one going to the postoffice.

## Xmas Aprons

We have every thing to be had in aprons—maids' aprons with bib and strap over the shoulder at 25c, 35c, 50c up to \$1.25 each. Women's fancy aprons of all descriptions: Chaffing dish aprons, darning aprons, fancy work aprons, sewing aprons; all daintily trimmed in lace and ribbon; 25c to \$1.50.

## Xmas Special in Shoe Department

65c—Women's, Misses' and Children's Jersey Leggings, regular \$1.00 and \$1.25.  
\$2.95—Jockey Boots that sold for \$3.50.

\$1.50—Men's Slippers, made in the style of high-grade ones.

85c—Indian Moccasins for men, women and children; children's Julietts; men's feet bath slippers.

\$1.25—Women's feet Julietts; women's feet slippers; women's knit slippers—over 100 styles to choose from; regular \$1.50 to \$1.75 values.

50c—Infant's feet slippers; fur trimmed.  
\$3.95—Party and Dress Slippers, Sandals and Pumps; regular \$5.00 grade.

New line of Children's dancing pumps just received.

\$1.65—Pla-Mate Shoes, sizes 4 to 8. 8 1/2 to 12 at \$1.85.

On Christmas Morning as on any other winter day, you can make your home more comfortable and cheery by using a Perfection Smokeless Heater.



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SMOKELESS  
OIL HEATER

Its genial warmth is quickly at your service, ready for use in any emergency. You will need it as a supplementary heater when those extra cold spells come. Later you will find it just the thing for the changeable weather of early spring.

The Perfection Heater is light and easily carried. It is safe in the hands of a child—the safest and most reliable heater made. Drums finished either in blue enamel or plain steel, with nickel trimmings—an ornament to any room.

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4 per cent Interest paid on Savings Accounts.

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235 Main Street.  
In the Business Heart.  
Home Savings Banks free to depositors.

18,000,000 TONS of pig iron is now produced annually in bituminous furnaces, while only 1,000,000 tons is produced in anthracite furnaces. Of all bituminous coals, the best known is produced at Rock Springs, Wyoming, and is known as "PEACOCK". Do not order any other coal if you care for results. Per quick delivery call CENTRAL COAL AND COKE CO. 45 West Second South Street. Sell, Ex. 35; Ind. 2600. Quick Delivery.

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WILL DO IT  
Works Without Water  
CLEANS-SCOURS-POLISHES

**Tribune Want Ads Pull!**